



International Catholic
Charismatic Renewal

Services

Serving

the Charismatic Renewal
in the Catholic Church

ICCRS NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXI, Number 4

July - September 2005

ICCRS and the call to unity in CR:

The continental Sub-Committees

by Michelle Moran



This issue

ICCRS and the call to unity in CR:
The continental Sub-Committees

A report on the 1st ICCRS
Institute for Leadership
Formation

Celebrating 40th Anniversary
of CCR worldwide

Members of the Council:
Nicholas Chia

News from the world

Strip cartoon:
The Eucharist - source
and essence of communion

LEADERSHIP FORMATION

The year of the Eucharist:
The Eucharist, Source and
Epiphany of Communion

CCR and other monotheist
religions: The Church and
the Jewish People

Questions to ICCRS

I am sure that the backdrop for many of us in the renewal this year has been the theme of the Eucharist. As we know, the Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of our Catholic faith. At the core of Eucharistic Theology is 'communio' which perhaps describes the deepest expression of unity. Mane Nobiscum Domine reminds us, "that the most evident dimension of the Eucharist is that it is a meal ... as such, it expresses the fellowship which God wishes to establish with us and which we ourselves must build with one another" (MND15). Through sharing together as Community at the table of the word and the table of the Eucharist, we are drawn deeper into Communion with God and with each other.

My own Community, the Sion Community in England, has a strong Eucharistic dimension. From the very beginnings of the Community over 20 years ago, we were aware that it is the Eucharist that holds community together. The early Church was 'united in heart and soul' (Acts 4:32). So the community that shares around the table together and gazes on the face of Christ together during times of Eucharist adoration will also experience 'Communio' and be drawn together in intimacy with the Lord.

Since being elected onto the ICCRS Council some years ago, it has also been my pleasure to chair the European Sub-Committee of ICCRS. This is surprisingly one of the first Continental Sub-Committees and has now been in existence for a number of years. I say surprisingly, because we here in Europe do not naturally have a spirit of co-operation, mutuality or unity. Indeed, one of the topics that we need to constantly keep returning to as a continent is that of reconciliation and the need to keep allowing the Lord to heal the wounds of our history. We also have to face some cultural challenges in Europe, recognising that there are a number of realities present in our rich and varied continent. Perhaps the most obvious is the East/West economic divide. Over the

years, we have learnt to look beyond economics and recognise that whilst the West may be financially richer, the East has much to offer in terms of its rich spirituality and deep faith which has stood the test of persecution. There is also a North/South differentiation with North Europe, largely influenced by non-Catholic Christianity and South Europe being strongly 'culturally' Catholic. These rich and varied expressions of Church within our continent also express themselves in the renewal. It would be true to say, for example, that CCR in Poland would differ in temperament, expression and structure to CCR in Spain and both those expressions would be very different to Scandinavia where the number of Catholics and those involved in CCR is much smaller.

We praise the Lord that, through the Holy Spirit, it is possible to have unity in diversity. As a continental Sub-Committee we try to gather representatives together from all the European countries every 18 months. Some countries have well established and structured National Service Committees. Whilst others, are not at this stage of development, but they may have a head-contacts), someone who can act as a reference point for their country. In places where renewal is only just emerging we may only be on the level of relating to a 'correspondent', who is in contact with us as a prayer group leader in their country. So once again we have the challenge and blessing of diversity! ASI this to the richness of CCR in Europe. In some countries we hear about the renewal not being as strong as it used to be, but in others we hear about the birth and infancy of the CCR. In Europe as a whole we are also giving priority to the raising up of younger leaders in the renewal and so in our European

Sub-Committee we also have a youth representative. We are now gradually exploring ways of raising up the next generations of CCR leaders.

It is the hope of ICCRS that continental Sub-Committees would be one way of sharing together in unity and diversity. I know that some of the other continents have also found this a fruitful way of collaboration and growth. Indeed John Paul II has written Apostolic Exhortations to most of the continents so e obviously saw continental unity and collaboration as vital. One danger with more structure is that things can become unwieldy or bureaucratic and too large to be effective or that power bases could emerge. We have to keep reminding ourselves that in the renewal all our structures should be about service and growth, rather than control and governance. St Paul warned the Corinthians about the danger of 'jealousy and wrangling' and emphasised servant leadership. "I did the planting, Apollos did the watering, but God made things grow. Neither the planter nor the waterer matters: only God, who makes things grow" (1 Cor 3:6-7).

Perhaps it is good to return to our backdrop theme during this Eucharist year. As long as we keep looking to Jesus and implore him to stay with us on our journey (Lk 24:29) then all will be well. From the European perspective, B can certainly say that continental collaboration hasn't always been easy, but the Lord is with us, he is speaking to us, teaching us and leading us forward. So with confidence we can learn to be drawn more closely together in communion as we recognise him in the breaking of bread.

"We praise the Lord that, through the Holy Spirit, it is possible to have unity in diversity. As a continental Sub-Committee we try to gather representatives together from all the European countries every 18 months"



A report on the 1^o ICCRS Institute for Leadership Formation

by James Murphy

By any measure, ICCRS' first International Leadership Formation Institute, held just outside of Rome from June 5 through the 24th was a resounding success.

43 students from 16 countries gathered for three weeks of teaching, fellowship, ministry, and prayer. They were taught by an international cadre of teachers including: Steve Clark (USA), Fr. Peter Hocken (England), Fr. Ernest Sievers (Uganda), Charles Whitehead (England) Pepe Prado (Mexico), Michelle Moran (England), Fr. Robert Faricy (Rome), Jim Murphy (USA) and Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko (Vatican).

Topics ranged from in-depth studies of the person of the Holy Spirit, to a history and perspective of Catholic Renewal. Practical teachings on group issues, topics of ministry, and service to others were also included.

The ICCRS staff, who also come from all over the world, extended warm hospitality to the Institute attendees. Besides coming out to the site to help in any way they could, the ICCRS office held an 'open house' (including a bountiful lunch!), to share with the students the working of ICCRS and its interface with the Vatican.

Some of the best moments of learning came when the students took 'field trips' to key sights in Rome, as well as important Vatican offices. They met with S. E. Mons. Robert Sarah, Secretary for the Congregation for Evangelisation of Peoples; and with S. E. Mons. Josef Clemens, Secretary for the Pontifical Council for the Laity. One impressed student commented, "This is fantastic! It's not 'us' vs 'them.' We all love Jesus. We all want the same things. We are one Church!"

Beyond the Vatican Offices, the learning experience continued as the Institute members visited Marmitino prison (where St Peter and Paul were held before their execution), the

Coliseum, and the tombs of the Popes in a grotto beneath the floor of St Peter's Basilica. In each location there were profound times of reflection and powerful moments of prayer. Some students commented that the entire Institute would have been worth it "for the field trips alone."

One additional journey for the group was a trip to St Peter's square for a public audience with the newly elected Pope Benedict XVI. Heavy rains chilled the bodies, but not the spirits of the ICCRS representatives, who began singing in the rain while waiting for a glimpse of the Holy Father....who came very near to where the group was waiting!

In addition to the field trips and classes, the team was strengthened by daily mass, sessions of praise and worship, a daily hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, and opportunities for ministry.

As the Institute progressed, students were put into teams to help with liturgies, music, and ministry times. It was exciting to see the creativity and variety of gifts that were present in each group.

A benefit of such an international group of students and teachers was that a very broad perspective of Catholic Charismatic Renewal and the world-wide Church could be seen. Many students commented that their view of the Church and the Renewal was stretched way beyond what they had understood before coming to the Institute.

The group had opportunities to share their lives and experiences with one another, whether it was in the classroom, at the dinner table, of just taking a walk during a few moments of free time. As the Institute came to an end, pictures were taken, email addresses were exchanged, and friendships were formed.

The original idea of an International Institute of Leadership Formation was the dream and vision of Oreste Pesare, Director for the ICCRS office in Rome. He was present during most of the Institute and often smiled his approval and joy at seeing a dream being fulfilled. The Institute had the enthusiastic support of Allan Panozza, President of the ICCRS council, and indeed the entire ICCRS membership. Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity not only endorsed the school, but was actually one of its teachers.

The purpose of the Institute is to help raise up a new generation of servants for the Charismatic Renewal, as well as give some encouragement and support to veteran leaders. This is done through teaching, ministry, fellowship, and interactive visits with various entities in Rome.

As pleased as everyone was with the first Institute, ICCRS sees this as only the beginning. "Of course we are very excited with this first Institute" Director Pesare said "but we must continue to improve and expand the program in the future. There is a real need for a service like this. An Institute that is both authentically Catholic and at the same time authentically Charismatic. This is a great service not only to the Renewal, but to the Church as well."

Allan Panozza, from Australia, echoed the Director's enthusiasm by referring to the Institute as, "a wonderful opportunity to come to Rome to experience first hand the power of the spirituality of Charismatic Renewal."

While details have not been organized as of yet, ICCRS planners are already looking toward the second International Leadership Formation Institute. Keep watching the newsletter and the ICCRS website www.iccrs.org for more information. See you at the 2nd Institute! 

ICCRS

International Catholic
Charismatic Renewal Services

Postal Address:

Palazzo della Cancelleria
00120 Vatican City, Europe
Tel.: +39 06 69 88 75 38 / 65

Fax: +39 06 69 88 75 30

E-mail: info@iccrs.org

newsletter@iccrs.org

Web site: <http://www.iccrs.org>

Fax prayer line: +39 06 69 88 75 74

The ICCRS Newsletter is the International Newsletter published bimonthly in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Its purpose is to provide information about the growth and development of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal throughout the world.

Permission is granted to reprint an article from the ICCRS Newsletter as long as ICCRS is quoted as the source. Recommended subscription donation: €20 (by e-mail) and €30 (by ordinary mail) by year. Make your cheques, bank transfers or send your credit card payments directly to ICCRS.

ICCRS Council members:

Mr. Allan Panozza, Australia (President)
Mrs. Cathy Brenti, France (Vice President)
Mr. Reinaldo Beserra Dos Reis, Brazil
Mr. Nicholas Chia, Singapore
Bp. Joe Grech, Australia
Mr. Dariusz Jeziorny, Poland
Mr. Cyril John, India
Mrs. Michelle Moran, England
Mr. James Murphy, USA
Mr. Jean Pliya, Benin
Mr. Peter Thompson, Canada
Fr. Renato Tisot, Italy
Fr. Emmanuel Tusiime, Uganda
Mr. Walter Zimmermann, Chile

Director-ICCRS Office:

Mr. Oreste Pesare, Italy

ICCRS Advisors:

Administration and events: Mr. Claude Lopez, Australia

put "Pentecost, Rome 2006" in your diary and spread the news !!!

Celebrating 40th Anniversary of Catholic Charismatic Renewal worldwide!

In response to the invitation of Pope Benedict XVI to hold a meeting at Pentecost with the various ecclesial movements ICCRS are holding a number of exciting events. These include:

- JUNE 3RD 2006** -- VIGIL WITH THE HOLY FATHER AT ST. PETER'S, ROME
- JUNE 4TH** -- PENTECOSTAL CELEBRATION "MY SOUL DOETH MAGNIFY THE LORD", A LARGE GATHERING WITH MAINLY ITALIAN REALITIES NEAR OR IN ROME.
- JUNE 5TH-9TH** -- OPEN CONFERENCE, CCR "YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW", IN FIUGGI
- JUNE 9TH-11TH** -- INTERNATIONAL LEADERS COLLOQUIUM "MATURING IN THE SPIRIT", FOR INVITED KEY LEADERS, IN FIUGGI.

These events will be a wonderful opportunity to come together with brothers and sisters from all the continents and rejoice in the blessings we have received. We will also look ahead and discern where the Lord is leading us as we respond to the call to mature in the Spirit.

don't forget it this invitation in for you !!!

Nicholas Chia Member of the ICCRS Council

Nicholas Chia born in 1949 in Singapore, and married with Loraine Ong Guat Hua. He had 2 young adults.

was baptized in The Holy Spirit in 1979 and since then, has been serving in his parish, the Church of the Holy Cross, in Singapore.

He was appointed by the parish priest as leader of the Charismatic Prayer from 1980 to the mid 90s.

Currently, appointed as a permanent member of the core group by the former parish priest/spiritual director, who is now the Archbishop of Singapore, he served in the parish council for many years as member, vice-chairman and chairman. In May 1999, he was honoured with the "Bene Merenti" distinction.

He served in the archdiocese Charismatic Renewal Office from

1980 to 1999 as vice-chairman and chairman. In 1990 He became a member of the national service team until it was merged with the elected committee to form the national pastoral team.

From March 2002, he is part of the ICCRS Council, representing ICCRS in Central and East Asia.

May the Lord continue to accompany him with the Holy Spirit inserving the Charismatic Renewal and the Catholic Church throughout the world.





"A sign of hope for all people"

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the heart of Pope John Paul II

A booklet quoting a number of passages from Pope John Paul II's addresses to the CCR, giving us the opportunity to be aware of the challenges that our beloved Pope left to us as his testament.

A sign of hope for all people, ICCRS 2005,
Author: Oreste Pesare,
28 pages, € 3.00 euro or \$ 4.00 US
+ postal costs.
Available only in English.

Make your order directly to ICCRS Office:
info@iccrs.org; fax: +39 - 06 69887530



NEWS FROM THE WORLD

Don't Miss Out On ...

Worldwide Priests' Retreat



Ars 2005

25 Sept - 1 Oct

This is your last opportunity to register for the Charismatic retreat for Priests in Ars, France. Led by Sr. Breige McKenna and Fr. Kevin Scallon. You will meet more than one thousand priest from all over the world.

We are waiting for you!

Retreat Ars 2005

Information and registration:

Retreat Ars 2005

Domaine de Burtin

F-41600

NOUAN-LE-FUZELIER

France

☎: 33(0)254-88-78-47

☎: 33(0)2-54-88-05-79

✉: retraite.ars2005@beatitudes.org

<http://retraite.ars2005.beatitudes.org>

Italy



From 22nd to 25th April the Community of the Risen Jesus of the Italian CCR celebrated its 18th International Convention at Montecatini Terme (Tuscany). More than 6000 people and delegates participated coming from Bolivia, Colombia, Croatia and Germany where the community is established. The theme of the meeting was "Come and follow me" (Mk 10: 21). Mons. Giovanni de Vivo the local bishop and Mons. Gervasio Gestori, bishop of San Benedetto del Trento took part and celebrated the Eucharist together with numerous priests. The Lord was lavish with his abundant graces, so many of which were recounted in testimonies at the Convention itself. Everyone experienced moments of profound conversion and of great spiritual intensity.

Come now is the time to worship !

Experience the Father heart of God



XX. Weltjugendtag
Köln 2005

During **World Youth Day** the **Charismatic Renewal of Germany** invites you to a refreshing Praise Event with ministry and prayer for individuals.

Date : Wednesday, 17th of August 2005, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Place : Köln, Sportpark Höhenberg (Flughafenstadion), Frankfurter Straße (Tram line 1, Bus No. 152 - By car: Motorway A3, exit Kreuz Köln-Ost, then take the direction "Zentrum", at 1st traffic lights turn left onto "Frankfurter Straße").

Celebrate God with a live worship band, testimonies and inspiring messages! and also meet 15,000 young people from all over the world; get in touch with the love of God. Don't miss it.

Input from: Bishop Joe Grech (Australia), Auxiliary Bishop Thomas M. Renz (Germany), Fritz Mascarenhas (India) and others.

Music: Live band directed by youth worship leader Matthias Schyra (Germany)

Ministry: Priests and counsellors from the Charismatic Renewal from various countries and various communities, e.g. Chemin Neuf, Community of the Beatitudes, Emmanuel, Youth Arise, Sword of the Spirit.

Perpetual Eucharistic Worship in Italy

Worship is the highest act of any human creature towards the Creator, prostrating oneself at the Lord's feet in a child-like hearkening attitude of praise. Worshipping means letting God love us and learning to love others ... Worshipping is entering the experience of Heaven, and so being more present in history. "Jesus went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God. And when day came down, He called His disciples to Him; and chose twelve of them" (Lk 6: 12-13). "The true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers" (Jn 4: 23).

In answering this call and as this year is the Year of the Eucharist, a help centre is available to assist people wishing to start a Chapel of Perpetual Eucharistic Worship (24 hours 365 days). The service offers informative material and the names of Evangelization Groups available for support: see the following addresses:

North Italy: Fiesso d'Artico - 041 51 61 218 - parrocchiafiesso@libero.it

Central Italy: Bologna - 0534 96 581 - elisabettabalboni@libero.it 333 78 67 928

Pistoia 0573 32 129 - jerusalem.frapost.pt@tiscali.it 339 18 49 866

Southern Italy: Rome 06 67 82 980 - alberto.pacini@tin.it 347 36 98 703

Insular Italy: Messina 090 97 40 862 - redazione@eccotuamadre.it 339 79 81 328

Also, See website: www.adorazioneperpetua.it

A Parish-kit describing the phases of the project and offering all the necessary forms to achieve it is available on request; furthermore, the Evangelization teams are ready to help parish priests to carry out the project in their parishes. May the Lord bless all those who walk and support this wonderful way for His Kingdom!

THE EUCHARIST - SOURCE AND ESSENCE OF COMMUNION

BY JAMT

WHEN THE DISCIPLES OF EMMAUS ASKED HIM TO STAY WITH THEM, JESUS RESPONDED WITH A GREAT GIFT, THE SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST. (JN. 15,4).



THE CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST: IF WE WALK "WITH CHRIST", WE ARE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH "HIS BODY".



TO CREATE AND FOSTER THIS UNITY, CHRIST SENT THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HE HIMSELF IS THE EUCHARIST IN WHICH WE ARE ONE BODY.

THE EUCHARIST IS THE FRATERNAL COMMUNION: ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL (AC. 4:32) - THE IDEAL COMMUNION FOUND IN THE BOOK OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.



THIS IS THE MODEL FOR THE CHURCH OF ALL TIME.

YOU AND I TOO WERE PRESENT IN THIS SMALL NUCLEUS, THE POPE, BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND LAITY, UNITED IN THE EUCHARIST AS IN GOD'S VILLAGE.



«AND AS THERE IS ONE LOAF, SO WE, ALTHOUGH WE ARE MANY, ARE ONE SINGLE BODY, FOR WE ALL SHARE ONE LOAF» (1 Co 10,17).